

AKATHIST AND CANON OF PRAYER TO SAINTS ATHANASIOS AND CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA

The Troparion of Saints Athanasios and Cyril:
To the hierarchs of the Lord, the interpreters of
dogmas; to the shepherds of the Alexandrians,
preachers of the truth, God's beloved pair; to the
shining lights, dissipators of the darkness of the
wicked: St. Athanasios the Great, the reaper of
heretics, together with St. Cyril the Hierarch, who
honoured the Mother of God as befits her, come all
you lovers of the feast, and let us gather with joy and
song to honour them; for they pray unceasingly to God
for us all.

Third Tone

To the hierarchs of the Lord, the teachers of dogmas;
to the shepherds of the Alexandrians, the preachers of
truth, the beloved pair of God; to the bright lights, the
dissipators of the darkness of the wicked: St.
Athanasios the Great, the reaper of heretics, together
with St. Cyril the Hierarch, who honoured the Mother
of God as befits her, come all you lovers of the feast,
and let us gather with joy and song to honour them;
for they pray unceasingly to God for us all.

Kontakion 1

We praise you, our Fathers chosen by Christ, the great
Shepherd, as the first teachers of the famous city of
Alexandria, in spiritual songs, and we ask you to

intercede to the Lord for the faithful Church, for your city, and for all who call to your aid, lovingly saying: Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars of Orthodoxy!

Ikos 1

Earthly angels and heavenly men you have shown yourselves, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, being enlightened with the true knowledge of God, and, as great hierarchs and teachers in the archbishopric of Alexandria, you have destroyed the teaching of the heretics, and have watered the upright from the springs of the true faith. Therefore we also, strengthened in Orthodoxy, say these things to you: Rejoice, you who have rejected the deceit of this world;

Rejoice, you who have kept yourselves steadfast in a pure and blameless life;

Rejoice, you who have wholeheartedly loved Christ alone;

Rejoice, you who have submitted your will to the will of God;

Rejoice, you who show forth the brightness of the true faith;

Rejoice, you who with manhood have taken the yoke of Christ;

Rejoice, ye preachers of divine wisdom;

Rejoice, chosen vessels of the Holy Spirit;

Rejoice, ye faithful workers in the way of the Lord;

Rejoice, you adornments of the Orthodox Church;

Rejoice, archpriests of the Holy Church of Alexandria;

Rejoice, heirs of eternal joy;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars
of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 2

The Lord, the Knower of hearts, seeing your steadfast
will, your wisdom, your holy life, the right faith which
you have shown, has placed you, Father Athanasius, in
the candlestick of the Church of Alexandria, to spread
the light of the Holy Gospel to the parts of the East,
for which we offer to God a song of thanksgiving:
Alleluia!

Ikos 2

Having submitted to the will of God, with enlightened
mind and pure heart, you have taken the good yoke of
Christ and followed in the footsteps of the Apostles in
all their labors, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, our
Fathers, sowing the word of God in abundance,
enlightening your flock with grace and strengthening
many in the Orthodox faith. Therefore we also, guided
by your teachings, cry out thus:

Rejoice, you who have been blessed by God from
childhood;

Rejoice, you who have followed the monastic life with
all your heart;

Rejoice, you who have striven in true simplicity and
simplicity;

Rejoice, you who from your youth have devoted your
lives to God;

Rejoice, you who have served the Lord in faith;

Rejoice, worthy recipients of the grace of the
priesthood;
Rejoice, you who have offered the bloodless sacrifice
for all men;
Rejoice, you wise pastors and teachers of the Church;
Rejoice, worthy followers of the Apostles;
Rejoice, you who drink from the spiritual springs of
the Scriptures;
Rejoice, you who fearlessly proclaim the true faith;
Rejoice, shield and defense of the Church of Egypt;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars
of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 3

With the power of your mind, enlightened by divine
grace, you preached the Trinity of one Being: the
Father without beginning, the Son who became
incarnate, and the all-holy Spirit, blessed Cyril,
showing yourself a fighter and defender of the Mother
of God against heretical teachings. And we, as a divine
writer of the mystery of the Godhead in the Trinity,
magnify thee and, enlightened by thy teaching, sing to
Christ God, to Him who glorified thee: Alleluia!

Ikos 3

Having great zeal for the right faith, Fathers Most
Blessed Athanasius and Cyril, with the weapon of the
Cross you have armed yourselves and the sword of the
word of God you have taken. As soldiers of the
Heavenly Father, you have shamed the devil, the
enemy of salvation, cutting away the tares of heretical

teaching, saving the souls of the erring, and
strengthening the faithful in piety and right faith.
Therefore we also, who are enlightened by your
prayer, with love sing thus:
Rejoice, you who have followed the great hermits in
your asceticism and chastity;
Rejoice, you who, by the parable of your life, have
turned many to God;
Rejoice, you benefactors of the truth of the Gospel;
Rejoice, you who guide us in the confession of the
Orthodox faith;
Rejoice, you honorers of the Most Holy Trinity,
Beginner of Life;
Rejoice, you who are kindled with the fire of God's
love, like the Seraphim;
Rejoice, you who have uprooted the heretical ministry;
Rejoice, you who glorify the true God;
Rejoice, you who have brought to faith the unbelieving
and godless;
Rejoice, good guardians of your teaching flock;
Rejoice, you who glorify the holy faith;
Rejoice, that we sinners also call upon your names in
faith;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars
of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 4

By stirring up a storm of wickedness and enmity, the
devil sought to destroy the Church of Christ with his
evil deeds through the wicked Arian believers. But
you, Father Athanasius, proclaimed with a loud voice
the Word of salvation in Nicaea, at the First

Ecumenical Council, you put to shame the teaching of Arianism and preached the Most Holy Trinity of one being, teaching all to sing to God with love: Alleluia!

Ikos 4

You have heard the voice of Christ, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, who called you to be steadfast in the faith until death, and, following him in your earthly life, you had no rest because of your unceasing labours for the salvation of the flock from the ravening wolves, but now you have obtained eternal rest in the heavenly dwellings, for which we praise your labours, singing thus:

Rejoice, you fiery defenders of the truth of Christ;
Rejoice, ye learned interpreters of God's revelations;
Rejoice, you who have exposed the heretical teaching of Arie;

Rejoice, ye unswerving apologists for the righteous Church;

Rejoice, you who by wise speech have closed the mouths of the erring;

Rejoice, ye watchful soldiers, ye guardians of the faith;
Rejoice, you shepherds in a continual state of sacrifice;
Rejoice, you who have always been ready to lay down your souls for your spiritual children;

Rejoice, you rich treasurers of deep theology;

Rejoice, you who have planted in the world the right faith and piety;

Rejoice, witnesses of the Most Holy Trinity;

Rejoice, eager guides to the threshold of salvation;

Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 5

In Alexandria you appeared, Saint Cyril, as a guiding star, illumined by the Sun of Righteousness, Christ God, shining over the parts of the East, and as the star of Bethlehem once guided the Magi of Persia, so you, Holy One, have shown the way of righteous faith; therefore we sing with thanksgiving to the Lord:
Alleluia!

Ikos 5

When the sons of the Church of Alexandria saw that you had proclaimed the Gospel and fearlessly defended the true faith in God, they followed the example of your life. And you, as good shepherds, lovingly guided those who desired salvation, thanking the Lord for his unfailing mercy to those who sought him with all their hearts. For this, in songs of joy we praise you, Holy Fathers, and say:
Rejoice, ye prayerful ones guided by the Holy Spirit;
Rejoice, you lights of our souls;
Rejoice, you who have devoted your whole life to the service of faith;
Rejoice, you who have left us a worthy example of how to glorify Christ;
Rejoice, gracious hierarchs, through whom heresies have been dispelled;
Rejoice, wise writers, defenders of Orthodox dogmas;
Rejoice, you who have banished the devil and his minions;
Rejoice, you exalted defenders of the right faith;

Rejoice, you who have acquired the zeal for the faith
of Elijah the Thesvite;
Rejoice, you who, like the prophet Daniil, have
glorified the Lord;
Rejoice, ye diligent labourers in the Lord's field;
Rejoice, you who even after death have not departed
from your flock;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars
of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 6

Preacher of the true teaching of the Most Holy Trinity
you have shown yourself to the world, Hierarch
Athanasius. By the power of your gracious words and
God-breathed writings, you shamed the deception of
Arius and endured many sufferings at the hands of the
enemies of Orthodoxy: five unjust banishments from
the throne of Alexandria, imprisonment and many
persecutions. For this, all of us looking upon you as
the good shepherd who lays down his soul for his
sheep, we offer to God the song of praise: Alleluia!

Ikos 6

Like lights you have shone in the firmament of the
Church, Holy Hierarchs, by the austerity of your lives
showing all the faithful the way to Christ, the undying
Light. Therefore, we ask you to help us that, by His
grace, we may cast off the darkness of unbelief and
unbridled fear that reigns in the world, so that,
together with all who love and worship God in spirit
and truth, we may sing thus:

Rejoice, you who have enlightened the world by the power of your words;
Rejoice, you bearers of the light of Christ through the darkness of this age;
Rejoice, you bright stars, who guide us in the night of temptation;
Rejoice, you lighted candles in the Church of Christ;
Rejoice, ye fervent zealots for the defense of the righteous faith;
Rejoice, teachers of the Orthodox mind and spirit;
Rejoice, you who have endured threats and persecutions from heretics;
Rejoice, you who, being defamed, chose God before all things;
Rejoice, ye fearless fighters by word and writing;
Rejoice, ye strongholds of escape of those persecuted for the truth;
Rejoice, you spiritual fathers who attained deification;
Rejoice, our guides to the heavenly homeland;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 7

The heretics, St. Cyril, wishing to cast you from the throne of the Church of Alexandria, slandered you before Emperor Theodosius, but God, knowing your improved life, put the slanderers to shame and dispersed their whole assembly, and placed you at the head of the Ecumenical Council of Ephesus. And you, Father, in the Council, shaming the heresy of Nestorius, glorified the Mother of God and the Mother

of Light, and glorified Christ, God the Man, by singing to Him: " Hallelujah!

Ikos 7

By your labours in the newly risen way of Christ, you have shown yourselves worthy workers and guardians, Holy Fathers, for whom, as faithful servants, you have entered into the joy of the Lord, and now, in heaven, you intercede before God for the defence and spread of the right faith, but also for the salvation of us sinners, who sing thus:

Rejoice, you who have dispelled the heresies of Arius and Nestorius;

Rejoice, ye defenders of us from the teachings of the wicked;

Rejoice, ye teachers of the erring from the right path;
Rejoice, you who, by the light of grace, enlighten the dark-minded;

Rejoice, you who with the waters of love water the furrows of our hearts to fruitfulness.

Rejoice, you tireless guardians of the spiritual flock;

Rejoice, ye soldiers of Christ, from the beginning of life crowned with his glory;

Rejoice, you who chase the wolves in sheep's clothing;

Rejoice, ye fountains through whom God pours forth healing;

Rejoice, ye guides of the faithful in the ascent of salvation;

Rejoice, you holy hierarchs who bring strength and peace to the Church;

Rejoice, you who turn our sorrows into joy;

Rejoice, Holy Hierarchs Athanasius and Cyril,
steadfast pillars of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 8

A new storm came upon the Church of God when Emperor Julian returned to the worship of false gods. Then your enemies rose up against you, Athanasius, and advised the emperor to destroy you. But you, Holy One, prophesied that this disturbance would soon be extinguished and prayed to the Lord to thwart the evil plans hatched against the Christians, so that all the faithful, with thanksgiving, would sing to God: Alleluia!

Ikos 8

All Orthodox Catholic Christians testify to your gracious help, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, seeing that you protect us from division, keep us from the onslaught of enemies and deliver us from all kinds of troubles. Therefore we also, the faithful sons of the Church of Christ, bring you these praises:
Rejoice, you who live the teachings of the Gospel;
Rejoice, you who are much loved by the pious faithful;
Rejoice, intercessors for all who worship you;
Rejoice, you who have kept the light of Christ burning even in the midst of the storm;
Rejoice, you who have opened to many the door of the kingdom of heaven;
Rejoice, ye who pray for the salvation of the Christian nation;
Rejoice, ye parables of purity and righteousness in the Lord;

Rejoice, you names in whose hearing the faithful
rejoice;
Rejoice, true guardians of God's love;
Rejoice, wise teachers of Christians of all times;
Rejoice, you who have been crowned with the diadem
of patience;
Rejoice, you who shine with everlasting light in
heaven;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars
of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 9

The whole angelic nature is amazed at the strength of
your faith, Holy Hierarch Cyril, cause the Lord has
shown you to be an unshakable defender of Orthodoxy.
You have everywhere proclaimed the truth of the
Gospel, comforting the faithful and thus guarding
them from heretical teachings. Therefore do not
forsake us now, and strengthen us all in the right faith
and in unity, that we may sing with joy to the Most
Holy Trinity: Hallelujah!

Ikos 9

With great courage you have preached the right faith
through wonderful words and writings, Saints
Athanasius and Cyril, the wise of God. You have
theologized about the incarnation of the Word,
enlightening the souls of many and showing them the
way to salvation, on which you have walked without
wavering to your happy end. And we, rejoicing that we
have you as teachers and intercessors before the Most
Holy Trinity, honor you by saying:

Rejoice, good shepherds and fervent advocates of the right faith;
Rejoice, you who have multiplied the talent entrusted to you;
Rejoice, you tireless pilgrims on the way to the heavenly homeland;
Rejoice, ye inhabitants of heaven with the angelic hosts;
Rejoice, ye light of those who are in the darkness of error;
Rejoice, you who for this reason are called great in the kingdom of God;
Rejoice, you who are adorned by Christ with eternal glory;
Rejoice, you who are honoured in the ranks of the great Holy Hierarchs;
Rejoice, teachers of all the world, wise of God;
Rejoice, you who with all the Saints now pray for us;
Rejoice, you through whom the Christian faith has been glorified and strengthened;
Rejoice, you whose names are written in heaven and in the hearts of the faithful;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 10

Guarding the flock of Christ from persecutors, Holy Father Athanasius, you were not afraid of the wrath of the emperors, nor of heretics, nor of imprisonments. But, enduring all these things as a worthy soldier of Christ, you did not cease to enlighten your flock, praying that it may remain steadfast in the right faith,

not fearing the enemy's devices, and that in their afflictions and troubles they may give thanks to God for all things, singing to him, " Alleluia!

Ikos 10

Unfailing defenders you are of all righteous Christians, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, that the Maker of heaven and earth has chosen you to be on earth steadfast pillars of the true faith. Pray, therefore, that we may receive God's grace and live in truth, all of us who love you and speak in faith:

Rejoice, you apostles who fearlessly preached the truth of Christ;

Rejoice, teachers of the dogmas of the right faith;

Rejoice, you who bear the words of God in your hearts;

Rejoice, you who have left us the spiritual treasure of your writings;

Rejoice, you who keep our souls from all kinds of error;

Rejoice, you by whose prayers we overcome the wiles of the devil;

Rejoice, ye healers of our sicknesses of soul and body;

Rejoice, you unbroken watersheds in the mire that overtakes us;

Rejoice, ye treasures full of good things temporal and eternal;

Rejoice, our intercessors at the throne of the Heavenly Judge;

Rejoice, you who are pure in heart and now see God;

Rejoice, you who have not forgotten your care for us, even after your transfer to heavenly places;

Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 11

The prayer which we offer today before your icon, hear it with mercy, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, and be intercessors for those who ask for your gracious help, giving healing to the sick, consolation to the sorrowful, and deliverance to the needy, that we may rejoice and glorify God with song: " Hallelujah!

Ikos 11

You, Holy Fathers, have shown yourselves to be preeminent illuminators and miracle-workers, for from ancient times until now you have interceded for all the Christian faithful, praying unceasingly to God to grant forgiveness of faults to all those who lovingly celebrate your holy memory and sing thus:

Rejoice, you whose icons are our windows to heaven;
Rejoice, that in all Christendom your names are honoured;

Rejoice, you who deliver us from the invasion of other nations;

Rejoice, you defenders of the faith and ever-prayers for us;

Rejoice, ye teachers of heavenly wisdom;

Rejoice, ye bright lights of all the world;

Rejoice, that through your intercession the sons of the Church are saved;

Rejoice, ye bearers of the burdens of the afflicted and sorrowful;

Rejoice, our hope and defense in all kinds of trouble;

Rejoice, ye godly comfort in times of trouble;
Rejoice, you who make the Lord merciful to us all;
Rejoice, you who strengthen the Church of Christ;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars
of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 12

We celebrate your blessed feast, Saints Athanasius
and Cyril, the hierarchs of Christ, and, gathering
before your honoured icons, we are protected by your
intercession, for you have shown yourselves to be
healers of diseases, teachers of the erring, and speedy
helpers of all who call upon you in prayer and sing to
God: Alleluia!

Ikos 12

Praising your holy life on earth and your glory in
heaven, with humility we humbly ask you, Holy
Fathers Athanasius and Cyril, to give us power from
on high over enemies seen and unseen, to be our
helpers in all things useful, and to bless us with peace,
love, steadfast faith, a pure heart and fear of God, so
that all of us, acquiring the light of grace, may joyfully
sing to you thus:

Rejoice, great Athanasius, who bears the name of
immortality,

Rejoice, enlightened teacher of the Church of Christ;

Rejoice, Saint Cyril, who uprooted the error of
Nestorius;

Rejoice, glory and strengthening of the throne of
Alexandria;

Rejoice, O Athanasius, that for the right faith you were banished;
Rejoice, you who in silence by prayer keep your flock;
Rejoice, wise Cyril, who hast laboured much for the sacredness of the Mother of God,
Rejoice, for the Mother of God herself has come to you at your repose;
Rejoice, blessed Athanasius, that the great Antony left you his vesture;
Rejoice that your holy relics have been placed in the Church of Saint Sophia in Constantinople;
Rejoice, worthy Cyril, unswerving preacher of God's wisdom;
Rejoice, Father Athanasius, glorious archpriest of the Most High God;
Rejoice, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, steadfast pillars of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion 13

O our pastors, most exalted, Saints Athanasius and Cyril, receive this little prayer of ours from humble hearts, ask for us from Christ God for strengthening in the true faith, so that we may walk in the commandments of the Lord without fear and, with your intercession, may enter the kingdom of heaven, so that we may joyfully sing with you the song of victory: Alilula: (three times).

Then read again Ikos 1 and Kontakion 1:
after which we say this:

Prayer

O most beloved Fathers, Athanasius and Cyril, God's enlightened teachers of the Church, fearless defenders of Orthodoxy, banishers of heresies, defenders of the right faith, skilful doctors of the sick, swift helpers of those in trouble and warm intercessors for all who come to you in faith, help us sinners in this life, full of trials, temptations and sorrows, and pray to God to grant us forgiveness of sins, correction of life, increase in virtue and the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven, so that together with you we may glorify the one Trinity: the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

After the reading of the Akathist, we say the prayer:

Truly, we must praise you, the Most Blessed and Most Holy Virgin, the Mother of our God. Who art more honourable than the Cherubim and more exalted beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption didst beget God the Word, we praise thee, the true Birth-Giver of God.

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

**CANON OF PRAYER TO OUR HOLY
FATHER
CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA**

Troparion of St. Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria, 8th tone:

O Teacher of Orthodoxy, Teacher of the just honor of God and of healing and Light of the world, the adornment of the monks inspired by God, Saint Hierarch Cyril, wise one, with your teachings you have enlightened all. Mystical instrument, pray to Christ God to save our souls.

Canticle 1, 4th tone.

Irmos:

The depths of the Red Sea with unclouded tracks, walked Israel of old with the hands of Moses in the image of the cross the power of Amalek in the wilderness overcame.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

As one who has shown himself to be a light illumined by rays of words, shine to us from God the grace of the Spirit who gives light, that we may praise your memory, Holy Father Cyril.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

Filled with the enlightenment of the divine Spirit, Holy Cyril, as a guardian of the commandments of Christ, and having been cleansed from sins, you have truly made yourself the dwelling place of the Most Holy Trinity.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As one full of zeal and boldness, great Cyril, without falsehood you have destroyed all the blasphemies against God of the heresies of those of evil faith, being a partisan of Orthodoxy.

And now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
As the One who gave birth to the Maker of all, the Saviour and Lord, you healed the brokenness of mankind, which was broken by the fall of the ancestors, Most Holy Bride of God.

Canticle 3: Irmos: The Church rejoices in you...

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

Strengthening yourself in Christ, Holy Hierarch Cyril, with a strengthened spirit you have torn the wiles of the cunning dragon like a spider's web.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

Thou hast shaken from thy soul, Holy Cyril, the mire of the passions, overthrowing all the height of the thoughts that rose against Christ.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As a goodly and well-meaning ascetic, thou hast strongly turned away from all bodily goodness, as from a wicked and crafty one, Holy Father Cyril.

And now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Let us all praise her, who alone among women is blessed, as a place of God, with all good cheer.

Irmos:

Thy Church, O Christ, rejoices in Thee, crying: Thou art my Strength, O Lord, and my Salvation and Reinforcement.

The 4th canticle.

The Irmos:

Risen on the cross, seeing Thee the Church, the Sun of righteousness, stood in her order, as it is fitting to cry: Glory to Your power, O Lord.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

When Christ saw you, Holy Father Cyril, that you overcame the wicked passions of the soul and with good will subdued the body, God-bearing Father, he made you the high priest of the throne of the divine Church.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

As a beloved son inheriting the fatherly goodness of Mark, he has made you also the recipient of the throne, following in the footsteps of the divine evangelist.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Like a sheep you have been shepherded by Christ, and like a shepherd you have shepherded the flock with wise words nourishing the soul, feeding it enough, as if it were greenery in the flowers of grace, Holy Father Cyril.

And now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen (of the Blessed Virgin).

With divine grace you gave birth, Virgin, to God the Word Incarnate in you, and remained a Virgin. For this we cry to you with unceasing cries of faith: Rejoice, Our Lady.

Canticle 5.

The Irmos:

Thou, O Lord, my Light in the world art come, the holy Light, Who turnest from the darkness of ignorance those who praise Thee in faith.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

Thy word, Holy Cyril, is like in truth a swift flowing of a delightful stream, which overthrows the wisdom of the wicked in faith.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

From the very foundation you have broken down the unclean separation of Arius and the unclean mingling of Sabelius, Holy Cyril.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

You have left, Father Cyril, to the Church of Christ, your enriching words as gold and as treasures more precious than precious stones.

And now and forever and ever. Amen.

Who can interpret your mystery, Most Holy Theotoks? For thou hast placed in thy womb Him whom not all creation can contain.

Canticle 6. Irmos: I will sacrifice to you with a loud voice...

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

The Seraphim gave to the Prophet the embers with the tongs, and you give with the hands of the Church of Christ the burning of the holy fire, holy confessor.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

Thou hast not crushed the other kindred as Samson did his enemies, but hast crushed all the alien teachings of those of other faiths, and hast given the Orthodox victory, Holy Father Cyril.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Being a true teacher of the assembled Council of God, you have overthrown the evil faith of Nestorius, the enemy of Christ, being zealous for the true Mother of God, you holy father.

And now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
The wise Bridegroom, finding thee altogether Perfect and Most Beautiful Dove, and Lily of Light, and Flower of the Valleys, dwelt in thee, O Mother of God.

Irmos:

I will sacrifice to Thee with a voice of praise, O Lord, the Church cries out to Thee, from the blood of demons cleansing itself with the blood flowing through mercy from Thy side.

Canticle 7.

The Irmos:

In the persian furnace Abraham's young men, with the desire of good faith, more than with the firebrand being kindled they cried out: Blessed art Thou in the church of Thy glory, O Lord.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

On Mount Sinai Moses once entered the cloud and took the Law, which speaks only what is written. And you, blessed Cyril, have revealed the depth of the Spirit hidden in them.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

The understandings of the Law, which were given before in parables like infants, covered like rosebuds, you have revealed, Sainted Father, by interpreting the writings in a clear way.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

The hard-to-understand books of the prophets of God and of God-breathed preachers, you being infused with the grace of the Spirit who filled the prophets, have revealed them to us, Father Cyril.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Theologically enlightened, Father Cyril, thou hast confessed, three Hypostases in divine Unity, unmixed and in undivided and unchanging Godhood, in one Being and in one Godhead.

And now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

He who sits on the high throne, seated on you, Virgin, on the holy throne of God, has rested. Blessed art Thou, O Mother of God, Most Holy Lady.

Canticle 8. Irmos: Hands outstretched...

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

Like the waters of the sea, the fountain of wisdom has truly gushed forth in you, for from your womb have flowed rivers of orthodox dogma, Saintly Father, as Christ said before, for your books, chosen by God, are more than the multitude of the sand.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

Showing thyself a shepherd and wise teacher of the Church, Most Holy Father, thou hast revealed both the establishments of the law, and having thy words as a strengthening and as a fatherly heritage, cry out: Bless all things to the Lord.

Bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord.

The indissoluble union of the Almighty Word, Who became incarnate for us, you proclaim to be indissoluble and inseparable, unmixed and perfect; guarding against the change of one into the other, you cry out: Bless all things to the Lord by the Lord.

And now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Truly, in giving birth to God, you have truly shown yourself to be the Mother of God, bearing the true name of God, Most Holy, revealing the name of the Godhead according to the likeness of Him who was born. For this we, the faithful of Godly mind, glorify you, O Birth-Giver of God, our blameless Lady.

Irmos:

Let us praise well and worship the Lord, singing and praising Him forever and ever.

And with outstretched hands Daniil shut the mouths of the lions, which were opened in the pit; and the power of the fire they quenched, with good deed glowing, the young lovers of the right faith crying out: Bless all the things of the Lord by the Lord.

Canticle 9. Irmos: Eve through the disease of disobedience...

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

All the arrogance, which has risen up against the knowledge of Christ and His Mother, You have utterly overthrown, Holy Cyril, the false belief of Nestorius about two sons, likewise the mixing of the mindless you have overthrown.

Stich: Holy Father Cyril, pray to God for us.

With completeness of mind and enlightenment of grace, theologizing the Trinity of one Being, the Incarnate Son God, showing thyself defender of the Mother of God, thou hast now, blessed one, exalted thyself in the highest.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Look down from on high with mercy on us who praise you, Holy Father, giving victory to the crossbearers and by your prayers exalting the brow of the Orthodox and enlightening those who magnify your ever-remembered memory.

And now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen (of the Blessed Virgin).

You bear in your arms the merciful Son, whom Isaiah saw, Mother of God Most Holy, being understood in our image, who also gives salvation to the world. For this we all praise you, Virgin.

Irmos:

Eve by the disease of disobedience brought curse within, and you, Virgin, Birth-Giver of God, by the bearing of the Child in the womb, the world blessing you have blossomed. For this we all praise you.

SEDELNA, 8th voice. Podobia: By the Wisdom and the Word...

Enriching yourself with divine wisdom, Father, you have spurted forth springs of dogma, which wash away the festering stain of heresies, watering with the gift the hearts of the faithful and the furrows of the Church saturate them, Holy Father Cyril. For this we lovingly celebrate your remembrance, inspired by God, Most High Hierarch. Pray to Christ God to grant forgiveness of faults to those who lovingly celebrate your holy commemoration.

And if it be a fasting day:

The SEDELNA of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, 8th chaplet. Podobia: By the wisdom and the Word...

By Wisdom and the Word in your womb, Mother of God, conceiving without sin, you gave the world the One who holds the world, and in your arms you held the All-embracing One, the Giver of food to all and the Maker and Lord. For this I pray to you, Most Holy Virgin, and with faith I glorify you, that you may deliver me from my faults when I stand before the face of my Maker. O Spotless Virgin, then give me your help, for you are able to do all that you will, Most Lauded.

SEDELNA of the Holy Cross and of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, 8th voice. Podobia: By the wisdom and the Word...

The little ewe lamb, seeing the Lamb and the Shepherd and the Saviour on the Cross, wept and wept and cried bitterly: the world rejoices in taking deliverance, and my belly burns with the sight of Thy crucifixion, which Thou endurest for the mercy of mercy, O long-suffering Lord, the deepest of mercies and the never-failing fountain, have mercy and grant forgiveness of sins to those who praise Thy divine sufferings in faith.

CANON OF PRAYER TO SAINT ATHANASIUS THE GREAT

Troparion of St. Athanasius Archbishop of Alexandria:
O holy Father Athanasius, as a pillar of Orthodoxy you have refuted the heresy of Arius by showing that the Father and the Son are of one and the same essence.
O great father, pray Christ our Lord to save our souls.

Troparion of St. Athanasius, Archbishop of Alexandria,
3rd Tone:

The hierarchs of the Lord, the interpreters of dogmas; the shepherds of Alexandria, preachers of the truth, God's beloved pair; the shining lights, dispellers of the darkness of the wicked: St. Athanasius the Great, the reaper of heretics, together with St. Cyril the Hierarch, who honoured the Mother of God as befits her, come all you lovers of the feast, and let us gather

with joy and song to honour them; for they pray unceasingly to God for us all.

Canticle 1, 8th voice. Irmos: By Pharaoh who acted...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Praising St. Athanasius, as if I were praising good deeds, my praise is directed especially to God, from Whom is given to men the grace of good works, Who is worthy of praise, whose image and seal of inspiration was St. Athanasius.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Of Godly wisdom being full, blessed and more than the sun with angelic life shining, Venerable One, you have perfected the Laws of our praise. But receive, Father, that we may praise thee according to thy good pleasure.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Song worthy of thy bright remembrance we bring to thee; but not being able to bring more songs worthy of thee, Saint Athanasius, we ask for forgiveness through thee and the grace of salvation.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

The frolics of fleshly lusts with power quenching them, from your youth old and sober mind you have gained,

Most Holy Athanasius. For with the love of wisdom thou hast ordered all thy senses.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

Glorious things have been spoken of thee in nations and nations, Who hast taken the Word of God into thy womb, and art pure, Mary, the Mother of God. For this we all honour you, our Patroness according to God.

Canticle 3. Irmos: He who has strengthened the heavens...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Cleansing thy soul and body from all filthiness, Saint Athanasius, thou hast shown thyself a church worthy of God. For this the fullness of the Trinity has rested in thee, O most blessed knower of the holy Mysteries.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

The Comforter's grace, finding your soul clean from sins, as you wished, has revealed in it its enlightened works, and has set you, Father, a shining beacon in the world.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Righteous hierarch, thou hast shown thyself to the hierarchs, and thy life hath been a working example; and thy word, wise man, a bright image of deepest

thought; and thy teaching a mountain of theology hath shown itself.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

You have shown Yourself to be higher than the Cherubim and Seraphim, O Giver of Birth to God; for You alone have received in Your womb the Immaculate God, Who is without sin. For this, all the faithful, we, O Most Pure One, praise you with songs.

Canticle 4. Irmos: You are my strength, O Lord...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

All the breath of life bearing the Spirit of Christ, Who before from above came with Godly grace into the tabernacle and filled the disciples, in you blowing, thirteenth apostle revealed you, Father, who preached the Christian faith.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

With a strong and divine zeal, and even before you became the first prelate of the Synod, taking part in the battle, you preached in Nicaea that the Son is equal to the Father. For this, Christ has made you the Church's greatest pastor and teacher.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Entrusted to you by the divine ordinance, Holy Hierarch Athanasius, as you were entrusted with the helm of the Church, all the soul-damaging slanders of the heretics you cut down with an axe, uprooting them like thorns; and with wisdom watering it, you sowed the seed of the Word.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

With thy fiery tongue thou hast burned, holy Athanasius, the wicked heresy of Arius and the ungodly straying away of Sabellius, which were utterly contrary to the righteous honor of God and equally wicked; and with them thou hast burned all heretical blasphemy.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

Thou, pure Virgin, art the Praise of the faithful; Thou art the Protection, Thou art the Rescue of Christians, the Defender and the Limen; with prayers Thou bringest to Thy Son, Who art altogether blameless; and Thou deliverest from dangers those who in faith and love confess Thee, the Birth-Giver of God.

Canticle 5. Irmos: For what have you forsaken me...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Having Christ, holy father, speaking through the good-spoken organ of your grace, you have put to shame in

writing all idol worship, guiding the erring and turning them to the true God, Father Athanasius.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

You overcame the most terrible heresies, Father, with words and writings, banishing deceit of many kinds from the world, with wise proofs, and you preached the Christian faith without rebellion, blessed one.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

You, the truly great teacher of teachers, O wise Father Athanasius, with unsearchable grace the Church of Christ has blessed you with the Apostles, as one who has clearly shown the unblushing word of faith.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

What hast been bestowed on thee by thy Son as His Mother, Most Holy, do not turn us away, who are faithful with thee. That we Christians, make Thee our Constant Intercessor before the Master.

Canticle 6. Irmos: Cleanse me, O Savior...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Apollinaris showing himself a sower of seed foreign to human judgment and mind, about the human nature of Christ, with power was refuted by thee, most blessed, to be a fool and without mind.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

From the ever-flowing Fountain of grace, sweeter than honey, we the faithful draw, as from the waters of a spring, the waters of words, which are poured forth through your lips, O most holy one.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Let every one, righteous Father, rightly marvel at your writings, dwelling wisely on them, that he shall see the heresies that were to arise overthrown before through you, according to prophecy.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

May we be delivered from our terrible faults by your prayers, O pure Mother of God, and may we acquire the divine radiance of the Son of God, who was born of you in an unspeakable way, Most Holy Virgin.

CONDAC, 2nd voice. Podobia: With the flow of blood...

The teachings of the right faith sowing and the thorns of the wrong faith cutting, you have multiplied the seed of faith with the rain of the Spirit, O Most Holy One. For this we praise you, Holy Hierarch Athanasius.

CONDAC, 4th voice. Podobia: Thou hast shown Thyself today...

Most high hierarchs of the Church and valiant defenders of the right faith in Christ, keep all those who sing: save, Most merciful, those who worship Thee in faith.

Canticle 7. Irmos: The descent of God...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

By the Word, the One Holy with the Father, and together with the Seer, the Son, the Only-Begotten, with right faith preaching Him, Father, who art called by the name of immortality, teach also that He is of one Nature and deity, and together for ever with the Spirit.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

You, teacher and preacher, minister of the Mysteries of the Threefold Light, the father of iniquity, seeing you, has raised up persecutions against you.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Innumerable are the dangers you have endured, blessed one, for your fight for the right worship of God; but also your crowns are innumerable; for you were like a diamond to those who struck at you, and by the holiness of your life you drew all to yourself.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

The dogmas which are unfit and foreign to the Church of Christ you have put away, and the Unity of the Godhead, the Trinity, you have theologized in the Hypostases, to Whom you have sung: Blessed are you, the God of our fathers.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

Let us praise Mary Most Holy and Most Precious; for through her, as from the fountain of God's goodness, the grace of the gifts of those above the mind flows to us; whom, with a devout thought, we now praise.

Canticle 8. Irmos: Seven times the furnace...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Saint Athanasius, the great adornment of hierarchs, the pillar of light and strength of the Church, the defender of the Trinity, the golden trumpet of theology and of the true monastic life, the giver of written laws, now celebrates with us, setting up priests and bringing peoples to Christ forever.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Truly a bearer of the name of immortality you were, for you overcame the doubters of the Word; and those

skilled with words by the harsh life you overcame,
overcoming the greatest of them on both sides.
Because of this, shining with the highest good deed,
thou hast won immortal remembrance for ever.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

By thy valiant struggles thou hast shown the most
brilliant hierarchy, thou infused thinker of God of the
Mysteries, for by thy frequent persecutions thou hast
removed the deception against the Most Holy Trinity,
preaching the Trinity and crying out: Worship the
Father, call the Son God, and praise the Spirit for ever
and ever.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

You have made yourself a dwelling place for the Light
Unseen, Most Holy; for a Light you have begotten to
those in darkness and shadow, who enlightens all with
the grace of the knowledge of God. To Him we the
faithful sing unceasingly: young men give songs of
praising, priests of God, bless Him, and the peoples:
glorify Him forever and ever.

Canticle 9. Irmos: Behold, I am afraid of this...

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Your life shone, Father, like lightning, and your word
poured forth like thunder to all, on whom the sun
shines. That from above, from heaven, you were truly

breathed. For this, the tomb, the cause of forgetfulness, has not extinguished your memory, Holy Father Athanasius.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

With the Entirely Bright and Enlightening Light being now more brightly illumined, send down from above to those who praise you your rays of light, clear as from a mirror; and with you unite them, blessed one, even though the demand be great and overwhelming.

Stich: Holy Father Athanasius, pray to God for us.

Singing we pray to thee earnestly: for the Church pray, that through the Cross all Christians may be given victory, to the Christian faith power over the heresies of enemies, and to us salvation and to the world peace, in thy memory, Holy Athanasius.

Stich: Most Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us.

As the One who gave birth to the Saviour and Redeemer, grant me salvation, O Most Holy Virgin, with your prayers, loosening the bonds of my faults. For all that you will, you also do, as the One who carried the King of all in your arms. Goodness beyond compare.

SEDELNA, 3rd voice. Podobia: Of the faith of God...

You have armed the Church with the most holy dogmas, Father Athanasius; with your teachings you

have destroyed the heresies, you have perfected the way of the right worship of God, and with the Apostle Paul you have preserved the faith. And so your desire has been fulfilled, my beloved, and now you receive the reward of your labours.

SEDELNA Most Holy Mother of God, 3rd voice.
Podobia: By the faith of God...

Thou art shown, Most Holy, Virgin Birth-Giver to God, God's golden throne and heaven strewn with flowers; that bearing God in thy bosom, thou fillest us with the fragrance of God's graces. For this we all proclaim thee, most pure Mother of God, and magnify thee.